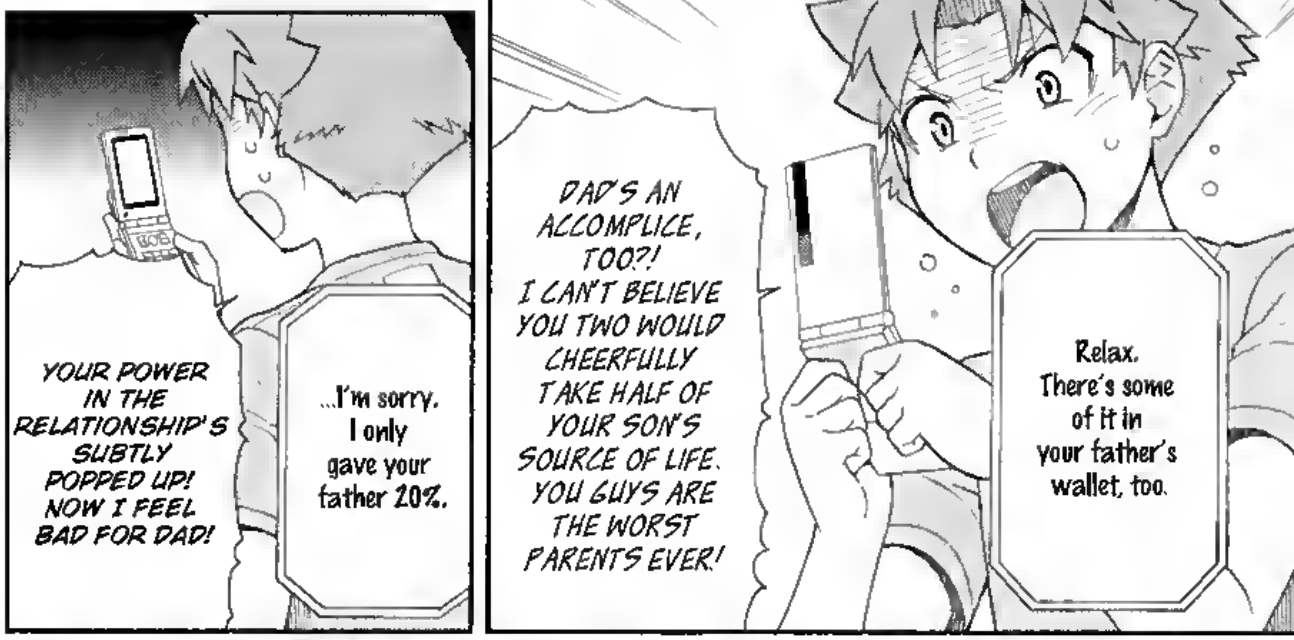
第24問
Yes, hello?
OH, I FINALLY GOT THROUGH TO YOU! THANK GOODNESS!
That voice— Akihisa? I can't believe you're making an international phone call. Did something happen?
"DID SOMETHING HAPPEN", MOM?!
DID YOU FORGET TO SEND ME MY ALLOWANCE?!
I KEEP CHECKING MY ACCOUNT BOOK, BUT THE BALANCE IS ALWAYS THE SAME: 39 YEN!!
How rude. I did not forget. I made sure to—
TRANSFER FUNDS?
—To put the money in my wallet.
ARE YOU EMBEZZLING FROM YOUR SON'S ALLOWANCE?!
DAMMIT!! I'LL TELL DAD ABOUT THIS!


DAD'S AN ACCOMPLICE, TOO?! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU TWO WOULD CHEERFULLY TAKE HALF OF YOUR SON'S SOURCE OF LIFE. YOU GUYS ARE THE WORST PARENTS EVER!
Relax. There's some of it in your father's wallet, too.
YOUR POWER IN THE RELATIONSHIP'S SUBTLY POPPED UP! NOW I FEEL BAD FOR DAD!
...I'm sorry. I only gave your father 20%.

Your father doesn't know. I told him he was getting half; he was so happy when he took it.
...Dad ...Why did you ever marry this woman...?
Well, setting that aside...
HUH? OH, OK

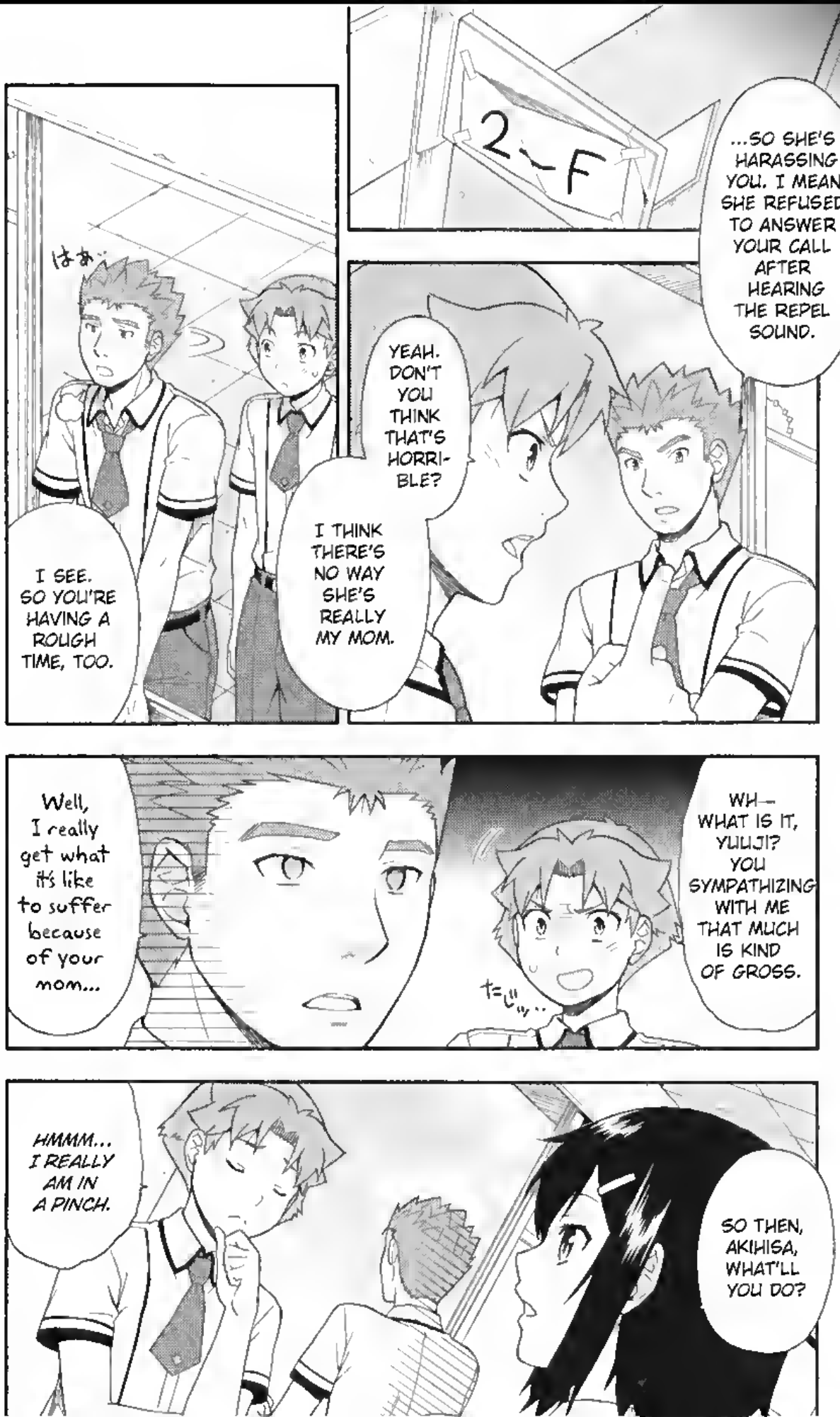
I told you before, right?
I want you to periodically report to me on how you're doing at school.
And yet I haven't heard a single peep from you since you became a sophomore.
...I'M SORRY, MOM. THE SIGNAL'S BAD; I CAN'T HEAR YOU CLEARLY.

I—I'M NOT THAT DUMB!
And it's so bad, it transcends human imagination.
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I HAVE A SUBTLE FEELING WE'RE NOT GETTING THROUGH TO EACH OTHER.
What do you mean, the signal's bad?
Seems more like my son's head is bad.
.....
Hmm... So then how are your grades recently?
W—WELL, YOU SEE, MOM, I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT YOU'RE REALLY YOUNG AND PRETTY. BUT MOM, I THINK YOUR REAL BEAUTY ISN'T ON THE OUTSIDE— MAYBE IT'S INNER BEAUTY, OR KINDNESS. THOSE FEMININE MERITS, ALONG WITH YOUR MASCULINE MERITS LIKE DECISION-MAKING SKILLS AND PHYSICAL STRENGTH ARE NATURALLY SOMETHING YOUR SON CAN BE PROUD OF.
Answer me. I'll decide what to do about your allowance based on your response.
HOW ABOUT YOUR RESULTS AT SCHOOL?
Your preface is too long. Answer me in English so that you can't make excuses.
A?
A? A THOUSAND? A LITTLE BAD? ABOUT AVERAGE SCORE?

APOLOGIES...
Hangs up.
SFX: BEEEEEEEP
BEEEEEEEP
DAMMIT!! THEN I'LL RAPIDFIRE REDIAL HER NUMBER, LIKE A STALKER!
DON'T UNDERESTI-MATE THE STRENGTH OF A SON!
WHAAT?! WHAT'S WITH THAT REACTION?! WASN'T THAT COLD?!

QUESTION #24

第24問

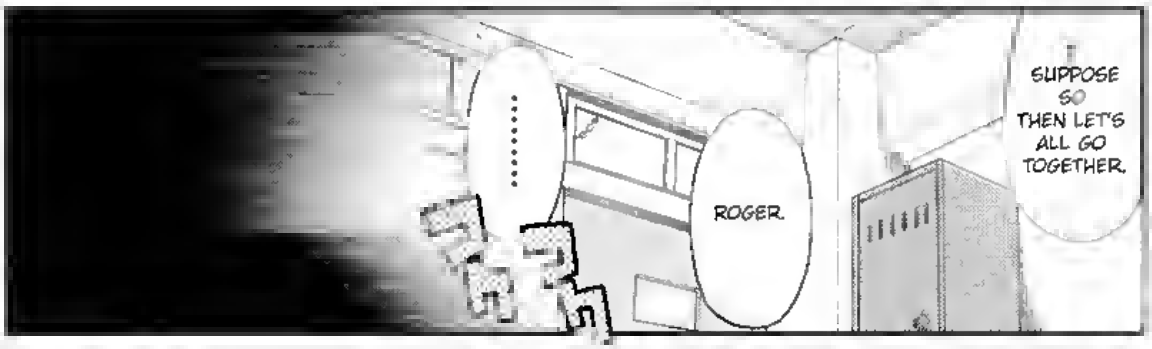

2-F
...SO SHE'S HARASSING YOU. I MEAN, SHE REFUSED TO ANSWER YOUR CALL AFTER HEARING THE REPEL SOUND.
はぁ
YEAH. DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S HORRIBLE?
I THINK THERE'S NO WAY SHE'S REALLY MY MOM.
I SEE. SO YOU'RE HAVING A ROUGH TIME, TOO.
WH— WHAT IS IT, YUUJI? YOU SYMPATHIZING WITH ME THAT MUCH IS KIND OF GROSS.
Well, I really get what it's like to suffer because of your mom...
HMMM... I REALLY AM IN A PINCH.
SO THEN, AKIHISA, WHAT'LL YOU DO?

...YOU'LL HAVE TO EARN THE MONEY YOURSELF.
HECK, AT THIS POINT, I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHERE MY PARENTS ARE ANYMORE. THEY WERE SOMETHING LIKE ECONOMIC CONSULTANTS FOR AN OVERSEAS FIRM, BUT...
SHE SEEMS PRETTY STUBBORN, TOO; I HAVEN'T REALLY BEEN ABLE TO TALK WITH HER SINCE.
AND SHE'S OVERSEAS, SO SHE'S TOO FAR TO GO MEET WITH...
"LA PEDIS," WAS IT?
NOT SURE WHAT LANGUAGE THAT IS, BUT THAT'S THE NAME OF THE PLACE.
WOW, SO THAT CAFE'S TAKING PART-TIME JOB APPLICATIONS.
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT. I'LL HAVE TO FIND A GOOD PART-TIME JOB.
A JOB, HUH? IN THAT CASE, THE CAFE NEAR THE STATION WAS LOOKING FOR APPLICANTS.

I'M PRETTY SURE THEY'RE ONLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THIS SATURDAY,
AND THEY'RE WELCOMING INEXPERIENCED WORKERS WITH 8,800 YEN FOR 8 HOUR SHIFTS.
THEIR FOOD IS RATHER TASTY, AND THEIR PRICES ARE REASONABLE, SO FUMIZUKI ACADEMY STUDENTS OFTEN PURVEY THEIR ESTABLISHMENT.
I WENT TOGETHER WITH MINAMI BEFORE
...WHILE SHE WAS PINNING ME WITH AN ELBOW LOCK.
IT IS CERTAINLY A STRANGE MANNER OF GATHERING APPLICATIONS, BUT IT IS NOT SOMETHING YOU NEED TO DOUBT.
THAT WOULD BE PERFECT FOR ME, BUT SOMETHING SEEMS KIND OF STRANGE... YOU KNOW.
UGH... I GUESS SO, YEAH...
...AT ANY RATE AKIHISA YOU CAN T AFFORD TO BE PICKY
PERHAPS THEY SUDDENLY LOST A LARGE NUMBER OF WORKERS AND NEEDED TO RECRUIT NEW ONES AS A STOPGAP.
HUH? DO YOU MEAN YOU'RE GOING, TOO?
SO THEN, AKIHISA, WILL YOU GO TO THE INTERVIEW, TOO?

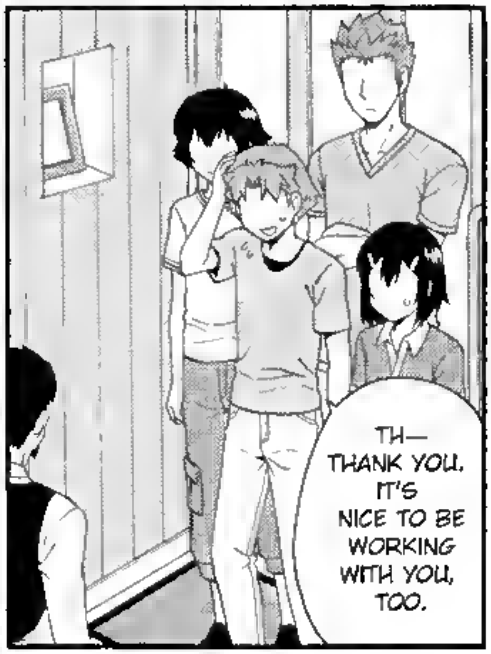
AN EXTRAORDINARILY STURDY ONE.
YEAH, KIND OF... I WANT TO GET A LOCK ON THE DOOR TO MY ROOM.
WHAT? YUUJI YOU NEED ONE TOO?
THAT'S THE PLAN. HECK, I WAS PLANNING FROM THE START TO GET A JOB.
IT'S A PRETTY BIG SHOP, SO I GUESS THEY NEED PLENTY OF HANDS.
I HEARD THEY WERE LOOKING FOR THREE OR FOUR.
IF ONE, THEN I MIGHT NEED TO DRUG YUUJI...
DO I HAVE ANY OF HIMEJI-SAN'S HOMEMADE COOKIES LEFT?
SO, HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE THEY PLANNING TO ACCEPT?
ABOUT FOUR, HUH? THEN HIDEYOSHI AND MUSSOLINI, HOW ABOUT YOU COME, TOO?

IN THAT CASE, THEN LET'S HURRY AND ALL GO TO THE INTERVIEW ON THE WAY HOME TODAY.
I MEAN, WHAT IF THEY STOPPED ACCEPTING APPLICA-TIONS?
...I DO REQUIRE INCOME FOR A NEW CAMERA.
HMM... IT MIGHT WIDEN THE BREADTH OF MY ACTING. EVERYTHING IS AN EXPERIENCE, ISN'T IT?


.....
ROGER.
SUPPOSE SO THEN LET'S ALL GO TOGETHER.

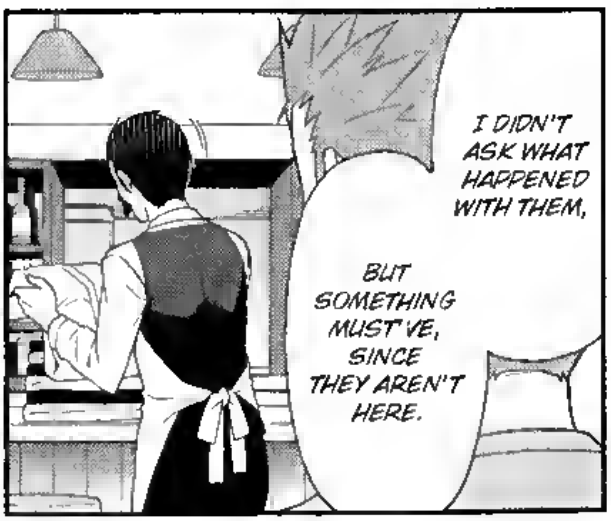
Here's to a good day of work with you all...
Ahh... I'm so glad you're here...
ALL WERE THEN ACCEPTED.
ON SATURDAY, THE DAY OF THE JOB—

MM... RIGHT NOW, HE LOOKS IN A STATE TO BE SOON HEADING TO THE SEA OF TREES NEAR MT. FUJI.
HEY. IS THE GUY IN CHARGE HERE REALLY ALL RIGHT?



<TL/N: A FAMOUS SUICIDE SPOT; SEE EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/AOKIGAHARA >

SO BASICALLY, HE'S JUST LOOKING FOR HANDS TO HELP OUT UNTIL THEY COME HOME.
THIS IS ONLY A RUMOR, BUT APPARENTLY HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER RAN AWAY FROM HIM.



THE GENDER IS WRONG

THE SIZES ARE WRONG.
size. L
size. M
size. S

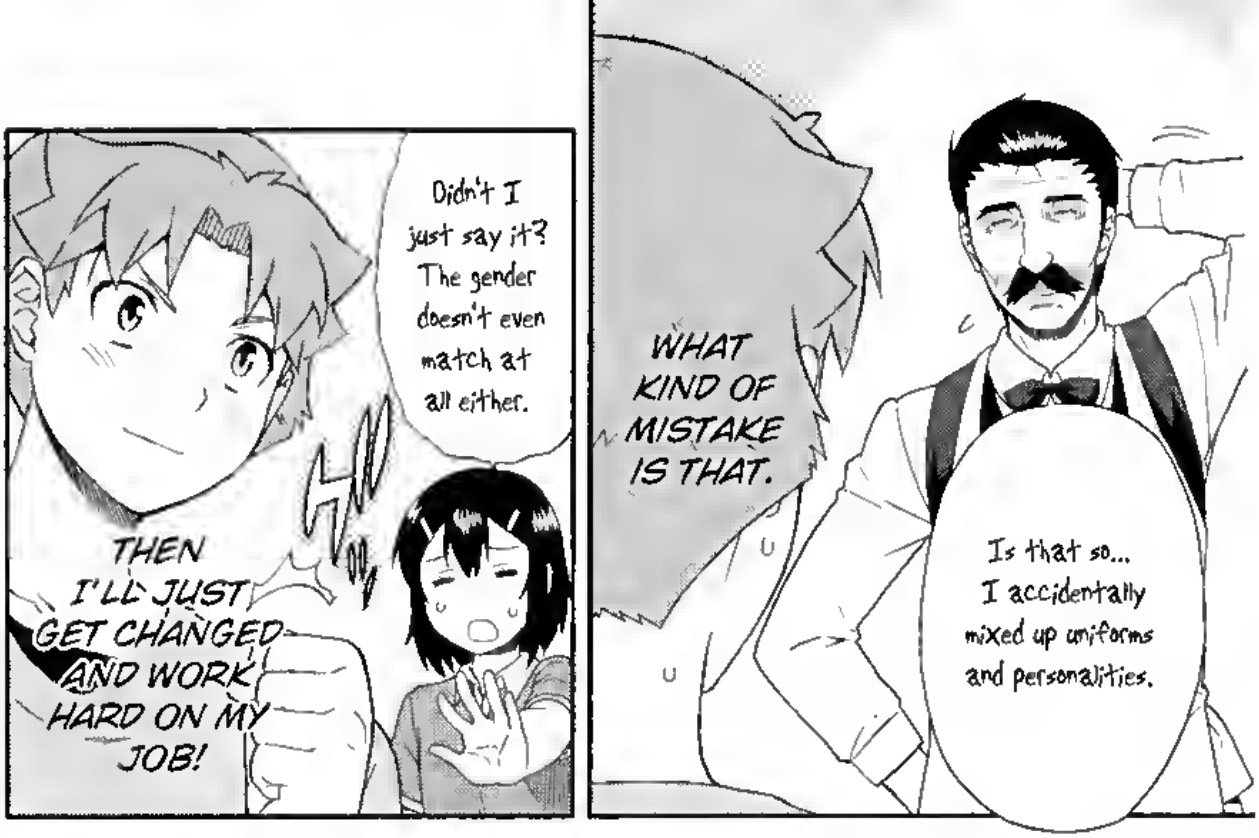
BUT YUUJI, MUSSOLINI— I MEAN, SAKAMOTO— AND TUCHIYA'S SIZES ARE CLEARLY OFF.
SIR, MINE IS A LITTLE SMALL,

Huh...? That's strange... I thought I had sized you properly by eye...

That's right...

IT'S EITHER THAT OR HIS EYESIGHT IS AWFUL.
I MEAN, IT'S REALLY SMALL...
MAYBE HE HANDED US EACH THE WRONG UNIFORMS?

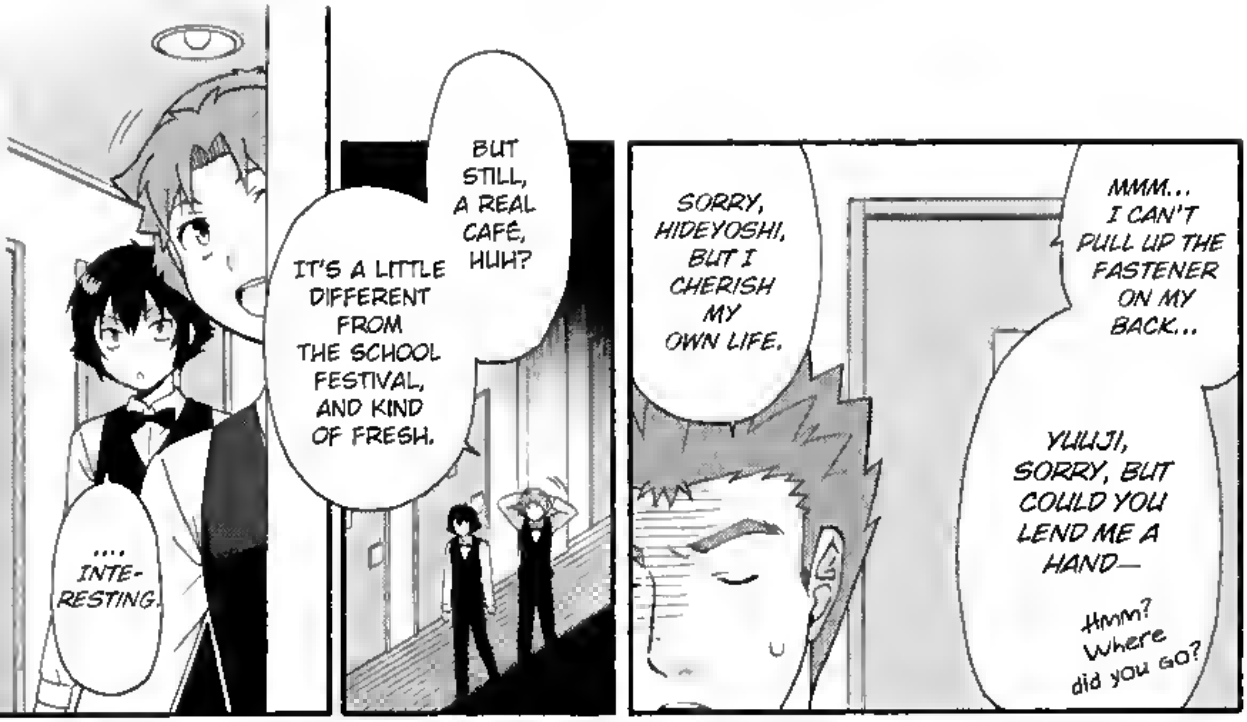
...I'M NOT INTERESTED IN EROTIC THINGS
This manager is unexpectedly sharp
But Sakamoto-kun is an S and Yoshii-kun is an M
Tsuchiya isn't erotic and seems to be an L but...
WHAT?!
That's such a lie!
LIES ARE MEANT TO BE DONE IN A WAY WHERE PEOPLE WILL GET FOOLED.
...IF IT'S M THEN IT'S JUST FINE.
WELL BESIDES THAT, MY SIZE IS PROBABLY L SO SWAP WITH ME MUSSOLINI.
NEVER-MIND, LETS JUST LEAVE IT ASIDE FIRST
MY SIZE IS AROUND L SO MUSSOLINI LET US SWITCH.
...M IS PRECISE FOR ME.
MANAGER, MINES A SIZE S SO IT'S TOO TIGHT FOR ME. CAN YOU SWAP IT?


Didn't I just say it? The gender doesn't even match at all either.
THEN I'LL JUST GET CHANGED AND WORK HARD ON MY JOB!
WHAT KIND OF MISTAKE IS THAT.
Is that so... I accidentally mixed up uniforms and personalities.

SORRY FOR THE WAIT.
SORRY TO KEEP YOU GUYS WAITING!
WOW, IT ACTUALLY SUITS YOU PRETTY WELL
STAFF ONLY
IT'S LIKE THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL.
I THINK I'M DESTINED TO HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH CAFÉS.

STAFF ONLY
THEN I'LL GET CHANGED AS WELL.
YEAH.
W— WE DO...?
...I'M SO EMBA-RRASSED.
YOU TWO LOOK VERY MANLY.
HEY, WAIT A SECOND!!
WHAT ARE YOU TWO GOING ON ABOUT?
WE'RE BOTH GUYS HERE, SO THERE'S NO PROBLEM WHATSOEVER.
...YOU HAVE EARNED CERTAIN DEATH...!
YOU IDIOT YUUJI! HOW CAN YOU SO UNASHAMEDLY GO AND GET CHANGED WITH HIDEYOSHI?!

YUUJI! THAT'S JUST WHAT'S WRITTEN ON THEIR FAMILY REGISTER!
NOW WAIT, AKIHISA! I AM ALSO IN FACT A MAN!
OK, I GET IT.
LOOK, I'LL LISTEN TO WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY AFTER WE FINISH CHANGING, SO FOR NOW, JUST CALM DOWN, YOU TWO.
BUT THAT WOULD BE TOO LATE! IN THAT CASE—
YUUJI! IF YOU REFUSE TO RETHINK THINGS—
HUH? YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BARGE IN HERE, ARE YOU?
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO PAY FOR THE DOOR REPAIRS.
I'LL REVEAL TO KIRISHIMA-SAN EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED HERE. I'LL KEEP NOTHING SECRET!
I'LL CHANGE IN THE HALL.
OK, OK. SO THEN, LET'S GO TALK TO THE BOSS.
.....

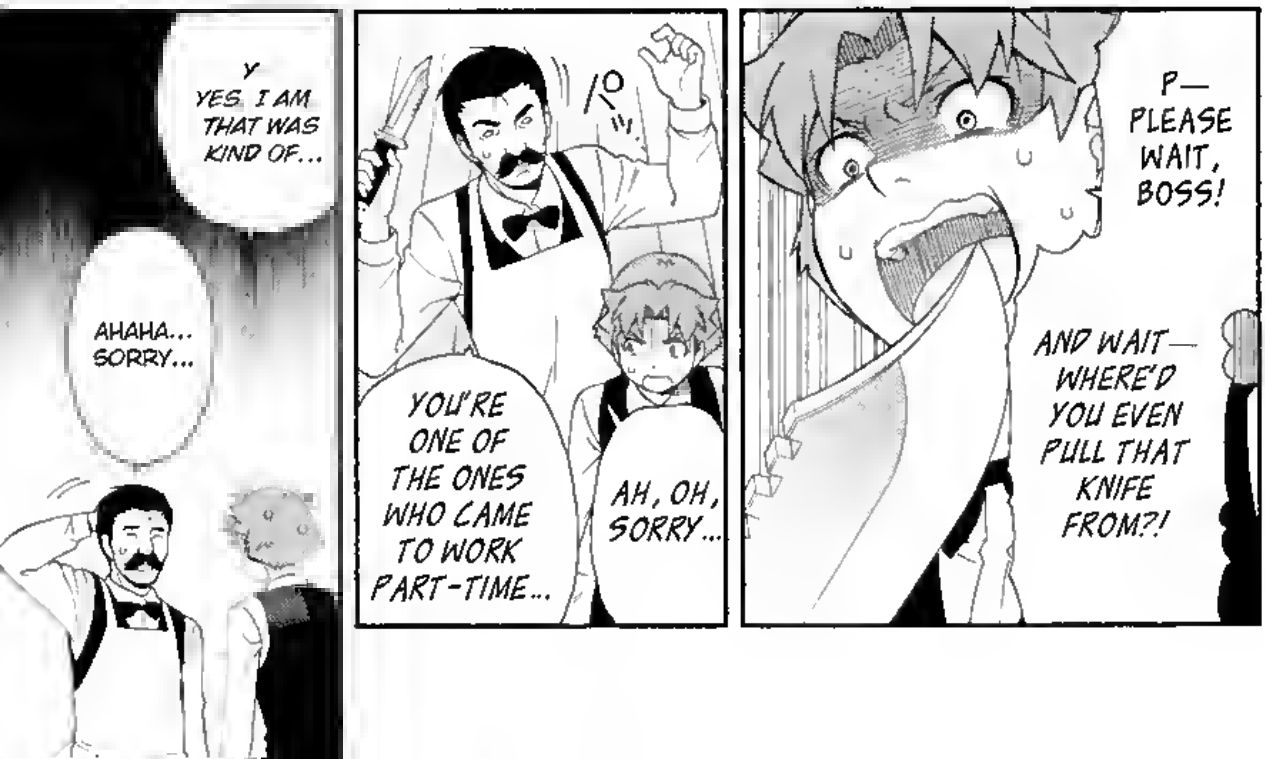

BUT STILL, A REAL CAFÉ, HUH?
IT'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL, AND KIND OF FRESH.
.... INTE-RESTING.
SORRY, HIDEYOSHI, BUT I CHERISH MY OWN LIFE.
MMM... I CAN'T PULL UP THE FASTENER ON MY BACK...
YUUJI, SORRY, BUT COULD YOU LEND ME A HAND—
Hmm? Where did you GO?

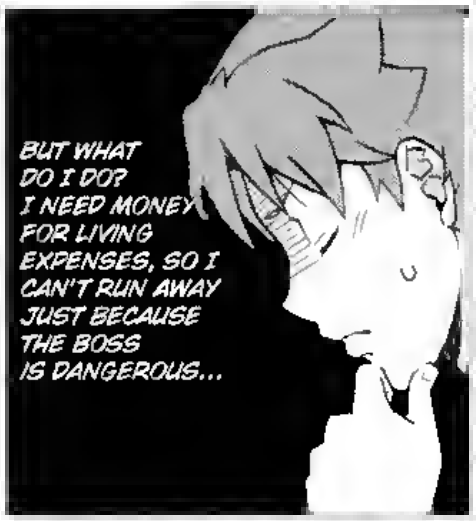
!?

I THINK I WAS RIGHT; THE BOSS IS DANGE-ROUS.
...YOU MAY BE RIGHT.
ﾕｰｲ..
ﾕｰｲ..
Hm...? Oh, I'm fine, I'm fine...
I thought that, if I could do this and manage the shop excellently by myself,
then both of them would surely come home...
B— BOSS, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

LET'S TRY HAVING A LIGHT, DAILY CONVERSATION.
...HOW?
YEAH. HOW ABOUT WE TRY TO CONFIRM THIS?
ISN'T THE WEATHER GREAT TODAY?
...Hm? Oh, what is it...?
UMM, BOSS,
GOOD WEATHER GOT ME NO REACTION AT ALL!
Your father's such a pain...
Ah... Yes...
BOSS, YOU MADE THAT MEMORY LIP.
I'M SURE YOU CAN'T HAVE A SUCCESSFUL CONVERSATION WITH A BABY UNTIL SHE'S AT LEAST TWO YEARS OLD.
You know, my oh-so-cute daughter...
Until she turned one, she would always say, "I love you, daddy!"
UMMM... I HOPE LOTS OF CUSTOMERS COME.

WHAT SORT OF GIRL IS YOUR DAUGHT—
UMM....
Yes... Yes...?
...WHAT IF WE TALK ABOUT HIS DAUGHTER?
WHAT DO WE DO? WE CAN'T TALK WITH HIM AT ALL.
I GET IT. MAYBE THAT WOULD TRIGGER A REACTION.
YOU'VE GOT FIVE SECONDS.
SAY YOUR PRAYERS.


Y YES. I AM THAT WAS KIND OF...
AHAHA... SORRY...
YOU'RE ONE OF THE ONES WHO CAME TO WORK PART-TIME...
AH, OH, SORRY...
P— PLEASE WAIT, BOSS!
AND WAIT— WHERE'D YOU EVEN PULL THAT KNIFE FROM?!


BUT WHAT DO I DO? I NEED MONEY FOR LIVING EXPENSES, SO I CAN'T RUN AWAY JUST BECAUSE THE BOSS IS DANGEROUS...

...INNING'S OVER
THREE OUTS. A VALID JUDGMENT.
IS THE BOSS SAFE OR OUT?

AH, IT SURE TOOK YOU TWO A WHILE—
GIVE UP ON IT, HIDEYOSHI. THIS IS PART OF THE JOB
MMM... SO I REALLY DO HAVE A DIFFERENT UNIFORM FROM EVERYONE ELSE.

H— Hideyoshi, umm... That looks really good on you—

SORRY. THIS UNIFORM WAS UNEXPECTEDLY COMPLEX
DONNING IT WAS QUITE THE TRIAL.

B— BOSS?! WHAT SORT OF JOKE IS THIS?!
WH— WHAT IS GOING ON?!
MY DEAR DAUGHTE-EEERR RRRRR!!
DAMMIT! HE WON'T LISTEN!
MY DEAR DAUGHTEE-EERRRRR!!
ROGER TH---
SHOOT! I CAN'T HIT HIM!! HIS MOVEMENTS ARE UNBELIEVABLE!
WE HAVE NO CHOICE! YUUJI, COUNTER-ATTACK!

WH— WHAT?!
HIDE-YOSHI!
...I CAN'T FOCUS ON THE TARGET...!
MUSSOULIN!! HIT THE BOSS WITH YOUR STUN GUN!
I— I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND, BUT ROGER THAT!
YOU NEED TO SHOUT AS LOUD AS YOU CAN THE WORDS OF A TEENAGE GIRL WHOSE FATHER JUST READ HER DIARY!
STOP THE BOSS'S MOVE-MENTS!
AFTER HEARING THOSE WORDS FROM HIS BELOVED (FAKE) DAUGHTER,
...I ABSOLUTELY HATE YOU, FATHER!!!

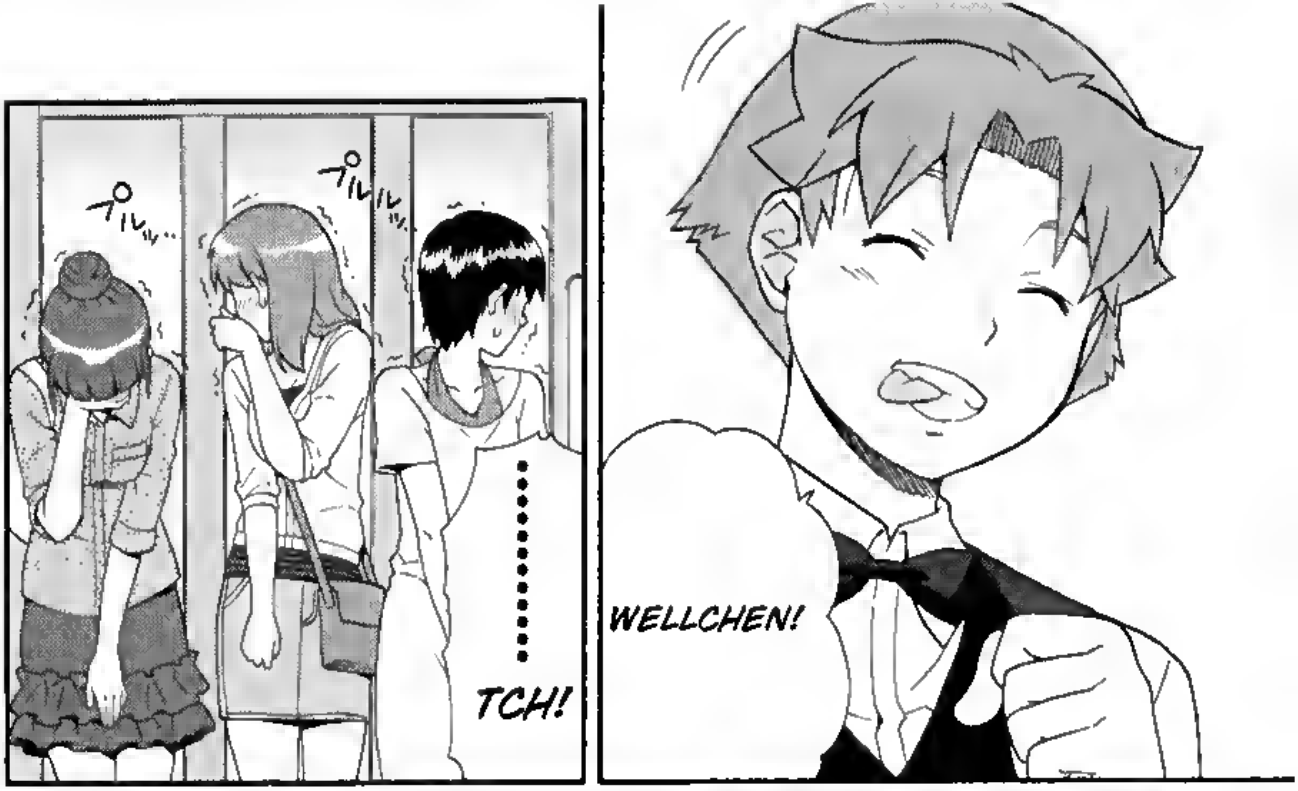
WHERE'D THE OPTION OF GETTING IN A BATH TOGETHER EVEN COME FROM?
AND THIS CONVERSATION'S LIKE THE WEIRDEST GAME OF CATCH EVER!
WAIT-- THAT WAS COMPLETELY INEFFECTIVE!
I SEE! THEN THIS TIME, WHY DON'T WE TAKE A BATH TOGETHER?!
HIDEYOSHI, HURRY AND CHANGE CLOTHES!
YUUJI, MUSSOLINI, WE'RE GOING ALL-OUT!
AT THIS POINT, WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO USE FORCE!
SO, WHAT DO WE DO?
ROGER THAT!!
MY DEAR DAUGHTEE-ERRRRRRR!!

はぁ…
WE WILL HAVE TO WORK SOME OTHER TIME.
LET'S PUT A SIGN ON THE DOOR SAYING, "CLOSED TODAY DUE TO EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES."
WHAT DO WE DO? SHIT, WITH THE BOSS LIKE THIS, WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING.
HUH? IN THAT CASE, OUR PAY IS—
...TOO BAD.
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO. LET'S TRY TO FIND SOME OTHER JOB.
You know, greeting with a smile customers whose entrance causes that cowbell to ring "Ding-a-ling"—
カランコロン
LOSING THE MONEY SUCKS, BUT I WAS REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO DEALING WITH CUSTOMERS PROFESSIONALLY.
Y— YEAH... OF COURSE...
WE'RE NOT GETTING ANY. IT'S NOT LIKE WE WORKED.

YES, I WAS HOPING TO GREET CUSTOMERS JUST LIKE THAT. TOO BA...
HUH?
Welcome!
THANK GOODNESS. IT SEEMS THEY'RE OPEN. I WAS SO WORRIED, SINCE WE HAD NOWHERE TO KILL TIME.
THIS IS SUCH A RELIEF.
I— I'M SORRY! I WASN'T TRYING TO!
HEY, AKIHISA! WHAT ARE YOU DOING, GOING AND INVITING PEOPLE IN ON YOUR OWN?!
THIS IS TROUBLING. IT SEEMS DIFFICULT IN THIS ATMOSPHERE TO TURN THEM AWAY...
WE'LL HAVE TO DO OUR BEST UNTIL THE BOSS WAKES UP.

ｺｸ…
I'LL BE IN CHARGE OF DRINKS.
MUSSOLINI, YOU TAKE CARE OF THE KITCHEN.
AKIHISA AND HIDEYOSHI, YOU'LL BE WAITERS.
IF WE LIMIT THE MENU, I FIGURE WE CAN PULL THIS OFF. LET'S GIVE IT A SHOT.
FOR GOOD-NESS' SAKE. I GUESS WE'VE GOTTA...
A TABLE FOR TWO? RIGHT THIS WAY, PLEASE.
OK, GOT IT.
AKIHISA, I'LL GO FIRST. YOU START PREPARING FOR THE NEXT CUSTOMER.
YUUJI, CAN YOU HANDLE THE DRINKS?
PLEASE CALL ME AS SOON AS YOU'VE DECIDED ON WHAT TO ORDER.

NICE GOING HIDEYOSHI. YOU LOOKED COMPLETELY NATURAL.
YES. COMPARED TO THE STAGE, THIS IS NOTHING.
IF ANYTHING, I FEEL LIKE THERE IS MORE LENIENCE BECAUSE FEWER EYES ARE WATCHING ME.
WELL, IT SEEMS PRETTY SIMPLE, SO I'M SURE I CAN MANAGE.
IF I LEAVE THE FOOD TO MUSSOLINI, THERE SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM.
ALL RIGHT! THEN I'LL DO MY BEST, TOO.
むふーっ
THAT'S THE SPIRIT, BUT BE SURE NOT TO OVERHYPE YOURSELF.
NERVOUSNESS CAN IMPACT THE BODY'S MOVEMENTS AND YOUR DELIVERY.
THIS ADVICE COMES FROM ONE WITH EXPERIENCE. BE SURE TO HOLD IT CLOSE TO YOUR HEART.
カランコロン
THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS ARE TO NOT FALL OR STUTTER.
OH, A CUSTOMER. LET'S GO!
I JUST HAVE TO NOT STUTTER AND NOT FALL!


TCH!
WELLCHEN!

B—
But I won't let myself be crushed by a single mistake!
I kind of feel like I want to get out of here, right now.

WELLCHEN!
THIS TIME, I'LL CALM DOWN AND NOT STUTTER...

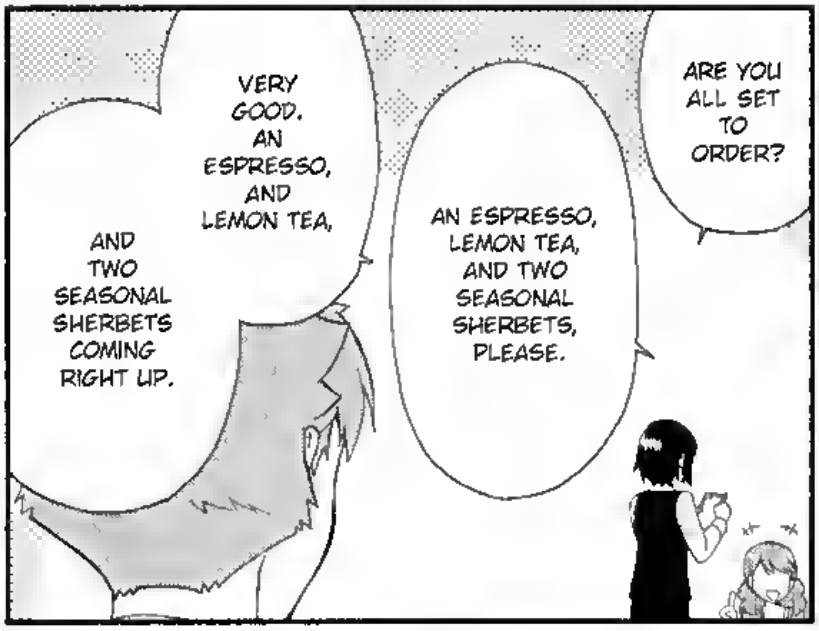
JUST GIVE IT ONE MORE SHOT!
IT'S FINE! WE AREN'T LAUGHING AT YOU OR ANYTHING!
AH, EXCUSE ME! WHERE SHOULD WE SIT?!

WAIT— AKIHISA, YOU CAN'T RUN AWAY! I HAVE TO HEAD BACK.

AHH... I'M SO JEALOUS OF EVERYONE WHO ISN'T THIS CLUMSY.
WH— WHAT'S WRONG, AKIHISA?!

...I'M SORRY. I WAS JUST BESIDE MYSELF FOR A SECOND THERE...

SO THEN, IF YOU WOULD PLEASE TAKE YOUR SEATS OVER HERE.


ARE YOU ALL SET TO ORDER?
AN ESPRESSO, LEMON TEA, AND TWO SEASONAL SHERBETS, PLEASE.
VERY GOOD. AN ESPRESSO, AND LEMON TEA,
AND TWO SEASONAL SHERBETS COMING RIGHT UP.

...Mm
THEY SHOULD HAVE THEIR ORDER READY SOON

AKIHISA, THOSE CUSTOMERS SEEM TO HAVE SETTLED ON THEIR ORDER.
OH, YOU'RE RIGHT. I'LL HEAD RIGHT OVER.
すみませーん

.....
OK.
ONE ESPRESSO, ONE LEMON TEA, TWO SHERBETS.

ALL RIGHT. THIS TIME, I'LL INTERACT PERFECTLY WITH THE CUSTOMERS.

I GET IT. SO I JUST HAVE TO ASK THEM, "ARE YOU ALL SET TO ORDER?"

ARE YOU ALL SEX?!
I really Just want to run away
ゲボッ
ゴボッ
...Are you all set to orde...?
I'LL HAVE MILK TEA AND MONT BLANC STAY STRONG.
O— OK, thank you very much....
I'LL HAVE AN ORANGE JUICE AND PANCAKES. STAY STRONG.
UH, UMM, I'LL HAVE HOT COCOA AND CHEESECAKE. STAY STRONG.

...WHY ARE THE CUSTOMERS TRYING TO CHEER YOU UP?
...DID SOMETHING HAPPEN ALREADY?
ONE EACH OF HOT COCOA, ORANGE JUICE, MILK TEA,
CHEESECAKE, PANCAKES, AND MONT BLANC.
AND THREE STAY STRONGS.

WELCOME. HOW MANY?

AFTERWARDS, THEY COMPLIMENTED ME JUST FOR BRINGING OUT THE FOOD. IT WAS HEARTRENDING.
Nicely done.

WELCOME. HOW MANY?
OH, THERE'S TWO OF—

WAIT— MORE CUSTOMERS. OK— LET'S DO THIS!
カランコロン
CUSTOMERS ARE COMING IN AT A PRETTY GOOD PACE....

I FEEL LIKE I'VE SEEN THESE TWO SOMEWHERE BEFORE.
ONE WITH A CREW CUT, AND ONE WITH A SOFT MOHICAN HAIRCUT...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, MAN?!
WAIT, YOSHII?!
WITH A BRA ON HIS HEAD...
WE'RE TSUNEMURA AND NATSUKAWA! WHAT SORT OF MEMORY DO YOU HAVE?!
WE HAVE NAMES, YOU KNOW!
OH!! YOU'RE THE PERVERTED UPPERCLASSMEN!
SO THEN, PLEASE CALL ME ONCE YOU'VE SETTLED ON YOUR ORDER.
THAT REALLY WAS RUDE, YOU KNOW...
MY APOLOGIES, CUSTOMERS.
ALLOW ME TO SHOW YOU TO YOUR TABLE.

THE MILK'S A LITTLE LATE GETTING HERE, AND WE'RE FRESH OUT.
KEEP THAT IN MIND WHEN PEOPLE ORDER.

WHAT IS IT, YUUJI?
HEY, YOU TWO.

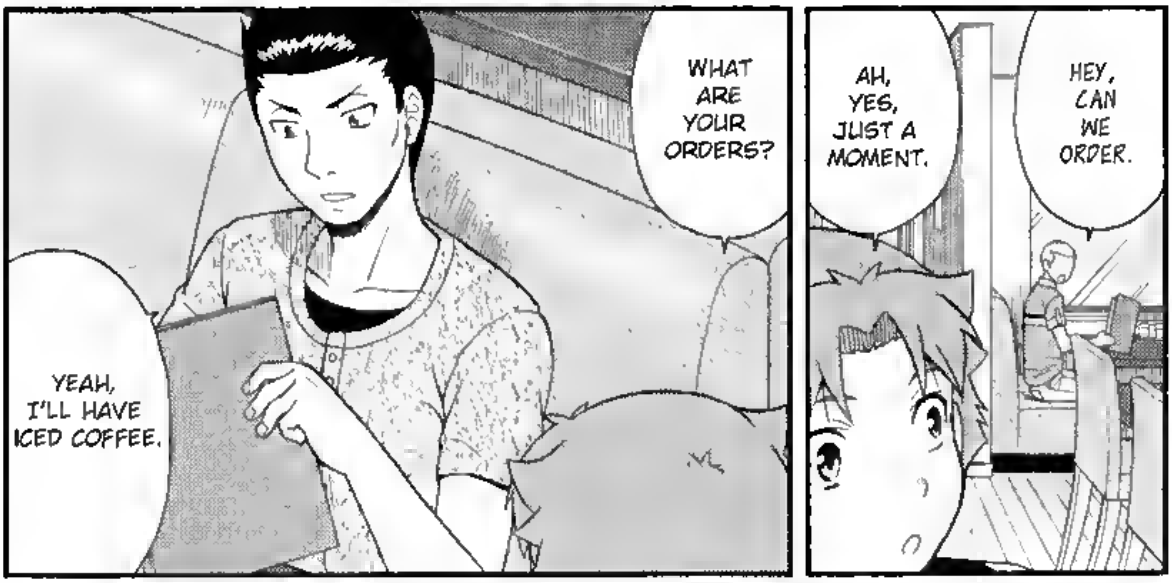
EXCUSE ME!
YES, I'M HEADING RIGHT THERE

ROGER THAT. I'LL BE CAREFUL WITH ANYTHING INCLUDING MILK.

I CAN GET YOU ICED TEA INSTEAD OF A MILK TEA, IF THAT WOULD BE ALL RIGHT?
APOLOGIES, BUT WE'RE ALL OUT OF MILK AT THE MOMENT.

YES. UMM, WE'D LIKE ONE ICED COFFEE AND ONE ICED MILK TEA.
ARE YOU ALL SET ON YOUR ORDER?

I GET IT. SO THAT'S HOW YOU SAY NO TO A CUSTOMER.
Hmm, hmm
VERY GOOD. ICED COFFEE AND ICED TEA.
I'LL BRING THEM TO YOU SHORTLY.
OH, I SEE.
THEN ICED TEA IS FINE.

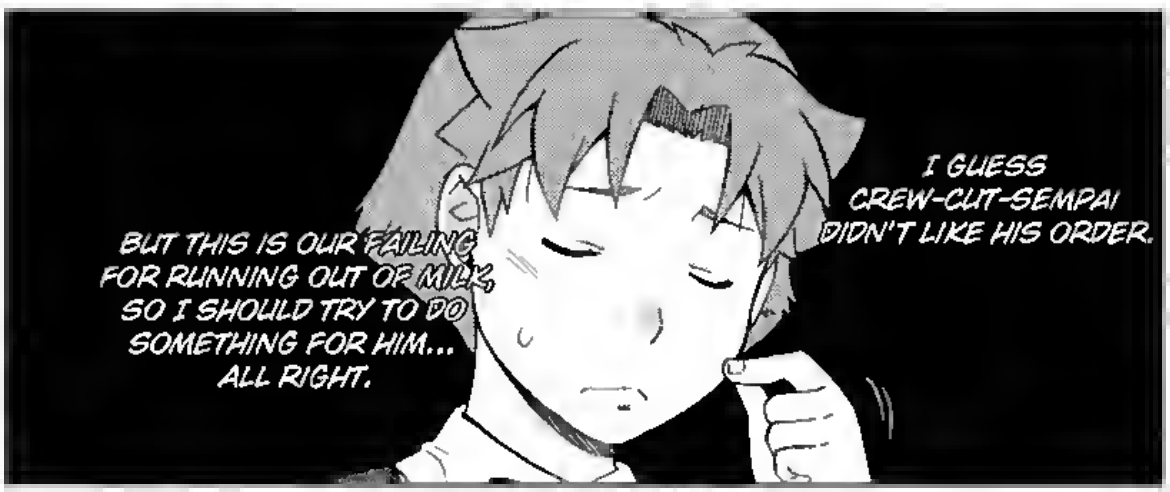

WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS?
YEAH, I'LL HAVE ICED COFFEE.
AH, YES, JUST A MOMENT.
HEY, CAN WE ORDER.

I'M SORRY, SIR.
HM? WHY?

CALM DOWN. JUST DO WHAT HIDEYOSHI DID A SECOND AGO.
I'LL HAVE ICED MILK.

THEN I WILL BRING YOU YOUR ORDERS SHORTLY.
LISTEN TO ME!
WE'VE JUST RAN OUT OF MILK.
BUT I WOULD BE HAPPY TO GET YOU ICE INSTEAD OF ICED MILK. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.
WHAT, JUST PLAIN ICE?!

NO, THANKS!
AND HERE IS YOUR ICE.
THANK YOU FOR WAITING. HERE IS YOUR ICED COFFEE.
THANKS.


I GUESS CREW-CUT-SEMPAI DIDN'T LIKE HIS ORDER.
BUT THIS IS OUR FAILING FOR RUNNING OUT OF MILK, SO I SHOULD TRY TO DO SOMETHING FOR HIM... ALL RIGHT.

A BLEND, SIR...? VERY WELL.
I DON'T WANT ICE!
IF YOU'VE GOT NO MILK, GIVE ME A BLEND!
HALF? YOU EXPECTED ME TO PAY FOR THIS?!
PLEASE RELAX, CUSTOMER.
WE'LL ONLY CHARGE HALF OF THE ORIGINAL PRICE.
I HAVE NO CHOICE. I'LL MAKE HIS DRINK MYSELF.
I'M SUNK. AND THAT CUSTOMER WAS SO EXCITED; I DON'T WANT TO MAKE HIM WAIT...
Sigh...
YUUJI, I'VE GOT AN ORDER... HUH?
AND "BLEND" MEANS YOU MIX STUFF, SO. . OH, I GET IT.
I KNOW THAT A BLEND IS A TYPE OF COFFEE...
SO, HOW DO YOU MAKE A BLEND?

BY THE WAY, WHAT'S IN THIS BLEND?
OH. THAT TOOK FOREVER.
カチャ
THANKS FOR WAITING. HERE'S YOUR BLEND.
コト…
THEN IT'S JUST WARM COFFEE!
Smile
IT'S A BLEND OF ICED COFFEE AND HOT COFFEE.
THAT'S IT! I'LL TALK TO HIM TASTEFULLY IN ORDER TO CALM THINGS DOWN!
WHAT DO I DO? IT'S STARTING TO BECOME A PROBLEM FOR THE NEARBY PATRONS.
WHAT'S THE RIGHT ACTION TO TAKE AT A TIME LIKE THIS!
WHO THE HELL WOULD HAVE THAT SORT OF TASTE?!
FEEL FREE TO MIX IN TABASCO AND TOOTHPICKS TO YOUR TASTE.

BY THE WAY, CUSTO-MER...
HUH? WHAT?
WILL YOU NOT BE WEARING A BRA ON YOUR HEAD TODAY?
ブチィ
YOU SHIT! LET'S TAKE THIS OUTSIDE, DAMMIT!
TAKE THIS!
!?
AH...

S— SORRY. I WASN'T AIMING FOR YOU...
NO, IT IS NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, CUSTOMER.

OH, YOU NEEDN'T CONCERN YOURSELF. I MERELY NEED TO CHANGE MY DRESS.
SORRY TO DRAG YOU INTO THIS, HIDEYOSHI.

HUH? WAS THERE ANOTHER CHANGE OF CLOTHES?
SO THEN I'LL BE RIGHT BACK AFTER CHANGING
I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT.

カラン
コロン。。
ひょこ！
HUH? HIMEJI-SAN?
GOOD DAY, AKIHISA-KUN. WE CAME TO PLAY.
HELLO. WELCOME!
HEY, HEY, MR. EMPLO-YEE,
HOW ABOUT YOU STOP STARING AND GET US TO OUR SEATS?
HEY! YOU DON'T LOOK TOO BAD IN THAT, AKI.
I— IN THAT CASE,
UMM, HOW MANY?
HUH? MINAMI, YOU'RE HERE, TOO?

ONE OF US IS A LITTLE LATE.
AND THE FOURTH IS...

FOUR.
HUH? THERE'S FOUR OF YOU?

KIRISHIMA -SAN TOLD US ABOUT WHAT YOU ALL ARE DOING, AKIHISA-KUN.

...Yuuji, keeping secrets from your wife is the first step towards adultery.
WHAT?! I FEEL LIKE I'M HEARING SHOUKO'S VOICE, BUT SHE CAN'T BE HERE!
AM I CUR-SED?!

IT WAS PROBABLY DUMB TO SAY, "I'M SURE NO ONE WILL TELL KIRISHIMA-SAN ABOUT THIS."
I GUESS I'LL CHALK THIS UP TO THE POWER OF A MAIDEN IN LOVE.

HMM... WHAT SHOULD I ORDER?
...THEY ALL SEEM SO GOOD.
ARE YOU READY TO ORDER?
OK!
AT ANY RATE, RIGHT THIS WAY, PLEASE.
COME TO THINK OF IT, THE CREPE I HAD WHEN WE CAME HERE BEFORE WAS REALLY GOOD.
IF ONLY I HAD SOMETHING I COULD RECOMMEND... AH, THAT'S IT.
UH, UMM, WHO WERE YOU WITH THEN...?
HUH? I WAS JUST WITH MINA—
MFGH!
? WHEN YOU CAME HERE BEFORE?

ANYWAYS, JUST MAKE YOUR STORY MATCH WITH MINE!
AKI! YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY ANYTHING!
MIZUKI, IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK!
IT'S NOT LIKE WE CAME HERE TOGETHER, OR....!
I— IDIOT!
I— I SEE. IN THAT CASE....
HUH? IT WASN'T THE TWO OF YOU?
YUUJI WAS THERE, TOO, MAKING FOUR OF US!
Y— YEAH, OF COURSE!
O— OF COURSE NOT! RIGHT, AKI?

...YOSHII, WHO WAS THE REMAINING FOURTH PERSON?
HE'S RIGHT THERE, SO OBVIOUSLY THEY'RE GOING TO ASK HIM!
WHY WOULD YOU MAKE SUCH A SHALLOW LIE LIKE THAT?!
Y— Yeah! It was that person! Uhm...
Th— The fourth person was that person, right, Aki?
And to top it all off, given this shop, a girl would seem more natural. Therefore...
But that doesn't mean I can name someone completely unconnected to me, that would be unrealistic.
I can't name anyone here, since they can just ask and confirm.

WHAT?! WHAT?! THAT WAS A LIE?!
THEN, DID YOU REALLY JUST COME HERE WITH MINAMI-CHAN?!
LIKE I SAID, WHY DO YOU KEEP MAKING SUCH DUMB LIES?!
THERE'S NO WAY TAKAHASHI-SENSEI WOULD COME HERE WITH US!

ガチャ
WH— WHAT?! SHOUKO, WHY ARE YOU SUDDENLY GOING INTO COMBAT MODE?!
……A hellish gate has opened. Compensate the crime with your death. Are you ready, Yuji?
ヒイイイーン..

TL-N: SHE SAID THAT IN ENG

...YUUKO.
...WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU ALL DOING...?
SORRY I'M LATE.

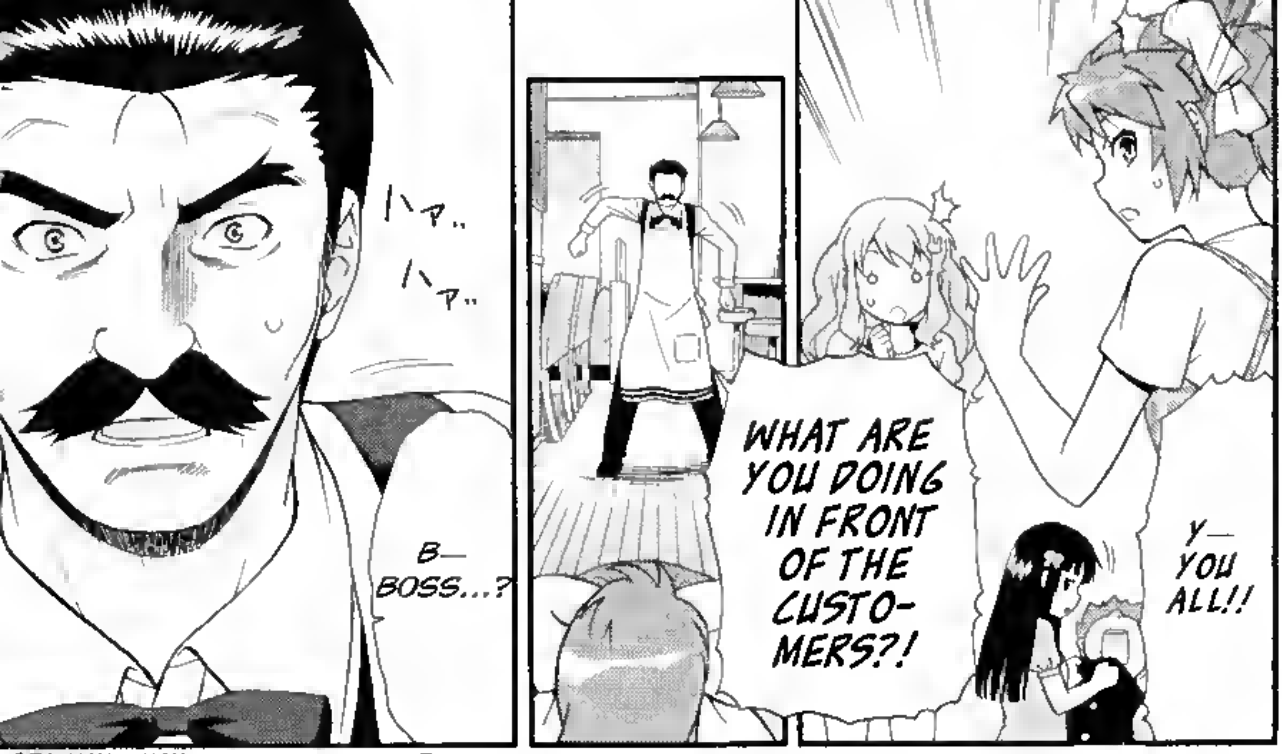
REPRESENTATIVE AND SHIMADA-SAN, I WILL ASK THAT BOTH YOU CALM DOWN.
YOU DON'T WANT TO BE CAUSING SUCH DAMAGE TO THE SHOP.
...BUT YUUJI'S..
THAT STUPID KI WAS..

NO EXCUSES. THINK ABOUT THE OTHER CUSTOMERS.
...UNDERSTOOD.
I GUESS YOU'VE GOT A POINT....
YES, YES. YOU'VE SPOKEN WELL, ANE-UE.
THAT'S RIGHT, HIDEYOSHI. YOUR SISTER REALLY CAME THROUGH FOR ME THERE—

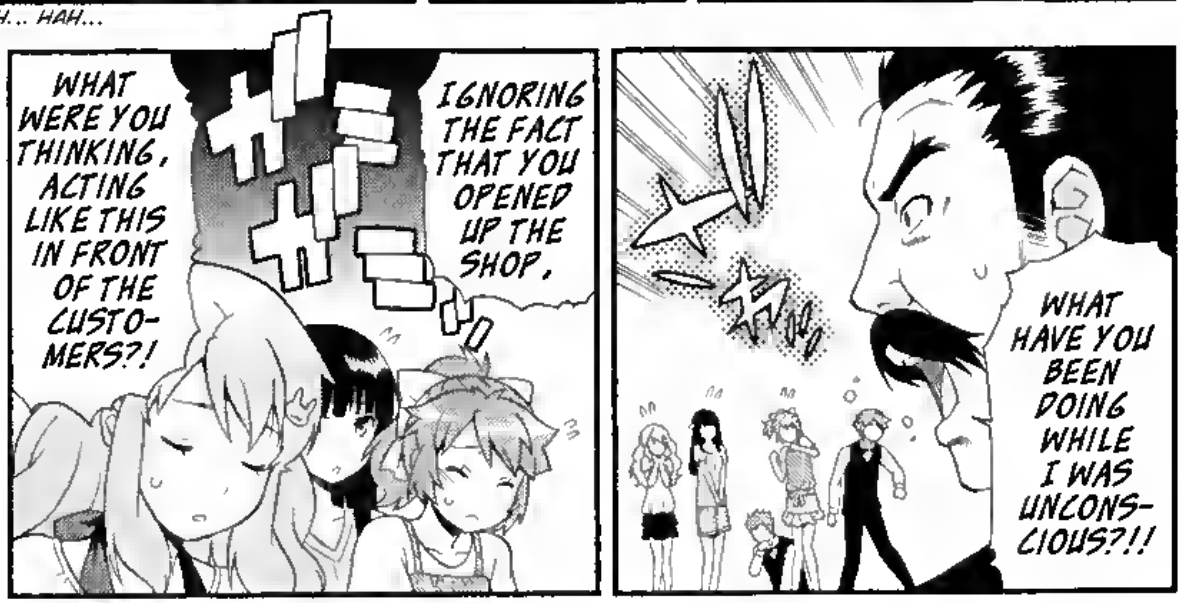
SFX: SMILE SMILE

IT'S FINE, IT'S FINE.
YOSHII-KUN, WHERE'S THE BATHROOM IN THIS STORE?
HUH? IT'S THAT WAY, IN THE BACK.
IT IS? THANK YOU.
AH, RIGHT, RIGHT. REPRESENTATIVE AND SHIMADA-SAN,
I REVOKE MY PREVIOUS STATEMENT.
EVEN IF IT CASTS A BURDEN ON OTHERS, ONE CANNOT STAND WHAT SHE CANNOT STAND.
ACT TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT ♪
TOILET
ハウン
ANE-UE, WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHY DID YOU GRAB MY ARM?
WHAT IS YOUR INTENT WITH SUCH A SHORT SKIRT?
DIDN'T I TELL YOU BEFORE? IF YOU CONTINUE ACTING LIKE THIS, PEOPLE WILL THINK THE SAME THINGS ABOUT ME, SO YOU NEED TO STOP.
TOILET

たじ…
AH! ANE-UE! STOP! THAT JOINT ISN'T SUPPOSED TO BEND THAT WAY—!
EVEN IF YOU TRY TO REGAIN APPEARANCES NOW, YOU'LL—
HA HA HA. WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
ANE-UE, DON'T YOU USUALLY SPEND YOUR TIME AT HOME IN NOTHING BUT YOUR UNDERWEAR?
UH, UMM, AKIHISA-KUN!
YOU REALLY DID COME HERE JUST WITH MINAMI-CHAN, DIDN'T YOU…?!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! AND IS IT JUST MY IMAGINATION, OR DO YOU HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO INTENTION OF LISTENING TO ME?!
…YUUJI, I HAVE RECEIVED PERMI-SSION…
YOU WILL TELL ME EVERYTHING ABOUT YOUR DATE WITH TAKAHASHI-SENSEI.
AGAH!! MINAMI! CALM DOWN! FIRST, JUST LET GO OF MY ARM!
AT THIS RATE, YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE A NEW JOINT IN MY ARM!!
O—O—O— OF COURSE NOT, MIZUKI!
AKI'S JUST AN IDIOT, SO HIS MEMORIES ARE ALL OFF…!


ハァ..
ハァ..
B—
BOSS...?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN FRONT OF THE CUSTO-MERS?!
Y—
YOU ALL!!

SFX: HAH... HAH...


WHAT WERE YOU THINKING, ACTING LIKE THIS IN FRONT OF THE CUSTO-MERS?!
IGNORING THE FACT THAT YOU OPENED UP THE SHOP,
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING WHILE I WAS UNCONS-CIOUS?!!

PLEASE, FEEL FREE TO TAKE YOUR TIME AND—
CUSTOMERS, I APOLOGIZE SINCERELY FOR OUR BEHAVIOR.

HM? FATHER? SO DOES THAT MAKE HER THE BOSS'S DAUGHTER WE'VE HEARD ABOUT?
WELL, FATHER? HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT YOU DID?
MY DEAR ANGEL...!
M— Miharu...?!
Miharu... Don't go anywhere ever again—
Yoshii-kun... Thank you..!
ISN'T THAT GREAT? YOUR DAUGHTER CAME BACK TO YOU.

SO YOU CAME TO SEE MIHARU AGAIN RIGHT?!
AHH! ISN'T THAT YOU, MINAMI-ONEE-SAMA?!
B— BOSS...?
...Mi... haru...?
M— MIHARU?! YOU LIVE HERE?!
THEN YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SO.
I WOULD'VE PREPARED A BED FOR YOU!
YOU'RE THE WOMAN WHO SEDUCED MY DAUGHTER!!
...You.

B— BOSS! PLEASE, CALM DOWN!
IF YOU DON'T, EVERYONE WILL START FIGHTING AGAIN!
AND THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG ABOUT SAYING YOUR DAUGHTER WAS SEDUCED BY A WOMAN!

SHOOT!! HE SHOWS NO SIGNS OF STOPPING!!
MY DEAR DAUGHTEE-ERRRRRR!!

ANE-UE! THAT JOINT DOESN'T BEND THAT WAY, EITH... YEOUCH!
HIDE-YOSHI, YOU WON'T FALL UNCONSCIOUS AGAIN, RIGHT?
AFTER ALL, WE'RE ABOUT TO START THE MAIN EVENT.
TOILET

Like I said, what are you saying?!
Why do I have to be punished?
...YUUJI, LET US RESUME YOUR PUNISHMENT.
Gahh-hhhh!!

AKIHISA-KUN! ANSWER MY QUESTION!
DID YOU GO ON A DATE WITH MINAMI-CHAN?!
THIS ROTTEN PIG WENT ON A DATE WITH ONEE-SAMA?!
MY DEAR DAUGHTE-ERRRRR!!
Y— YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG, MISTER!
I DON'T LIKE MIHARU, I LIKE AK—
YOU'LL PAY! I'LL TEAR YOU LIMB FROM LIMB!

... And then?

M— MINAMI! DON'T DRAG ME INTO THIS!
WAIT— WHY IS THE BOSS GOING AFTER ME?!
SOME-BODY, SAVE ME!!

LONG STORY SHORT, MOM, WOULD YOU PLEASE SEND ME MY ALLOWANCE OUT OF THE CHARITY OF YOUR HEART?
You really are just...
I— I tried really hard.
But a little bit of bad luck and certain people showing up made everything a catastrophe...
Well, there was nothing you could have done this time, so I'll help you out.
Haaah
REALLY?! THANK YOU SO MUCH, MOM!
However, if you do not henceforth live in a proper manner...
Eh,,,
IF I DON'T, THEN WHAT?
Then I'll send Akira your way.
To keep an eye on you.

...Who's that? Is it someone I know?
Are you so stupid as to forget the members of your own family?
SFX: BEEEP BEEEP
MOM! PLEASE, SHOW COMPASSION! I'M REALLY ENJOYING MY LIFE RIGHT NOW!
If you want to continue living alone, then clean up your life.
OH, MOM! I'M BEGGING YOU, PLEASE, JUST LISTEN—
...W— Will every-thing be all right?
She said it's only if I don't live properly, right?
■6巻につづく■
TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 6

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